

Parent Advisory Council Minutes
Laidlaw School
Nov 1st, 2023
Start Time: 7:05 PM

Attendance: Heather Eby, Ruth Abreu, Meaghen Jensen, Tracy Enns, Laura Speziali, Trish Klassen

Executive Positions: Chair – Ruth Abreu, Vice Chair – Jill Cesario Correia, Secretary – Meaghan Jensen, Treasurer – Tracy Enns, Social Media – Lacey Terwin, Fundraising Coordinator – Laura Speziali & Christine Louizos, Fun Lunch Coordinator – Ashley Abbott

Vacant Positions: Treasurer (2), Fun Lunch Coordinator (1), Secretary (1), Co-Chair 2024/2025 (1)

Principal's Report – Heather Eby

- a. School Update:
 - i. 279 students
 - ii. 7 new Educational Assistants – Cheryl Gerwig (EA1 full time) & Georgia Church (EA2 full time)
 - iii. New tech tubs & caart bought for Laptops (located in Library)
 - iv. 2 new lofts purchased and will be installed later this month In Rm 4 & 13
 - v. Gym Storage room door being replaced this month
 - vi. AV equipment has been ordered and in processing
- b. October Highlights:
 - i. Truth & Reconciliation week. Along with School Assembly, Students painted rocks for a rock garden representing our commitment to Reconciliation
 - ii. Parent Teacher conferences were early this year due to the October 3rd Metro Common Day. Teachers and families were happy to use the time to share goals and initial observations of learning behaviours.
 - iii. Picture Day took place on October 19th with Lifetouch. We had a few complaints from teachers and will be investigating a new company, Edge Imaging for next year. (Idea was brought up to have a parent volunteer on the day to assist with minor adjustments)
 - iv. Teachers along with their Student Support Teacher link have been in several planning meetings this month to support their students for a successful year (EAL, SSP and Classroom profiles).
 - v. Groove-a-thon was another awesome success! The students had a blast! A big thank you to the PAC organizing committee.
 - vi. **Library** - Scholastic Book Fair, Pumpkin Contest, Drop Everything and Read Day and so much more!

- vii. **Laidlaw Athletics** – Gr. 7/8 Diggers Boys Volleyball team, Gr.7/8 Bumpers Girls Volleyball team, Gr. 5/6 Flag Football, Bowling program
- viii. **Music** – Gr.3/4 Ukulele Club, Gr.3/4 Choir and preparations for the Remembrance Day assembly on Nov.10th
- c. Teacher Professional Development:
 - i. Teachers had their first PD October 3rd afternoon to work on our school plan priorities and Flex time planning/troubleshooting/reflecting.
 - ii. October 20th MTS PD day – Teachers were engaged in professional learning in different focus areas...multi-age educators, indigenous education, outdoor learning, math, etc.
 - iii. November 24th – Teacher Divisional PD Day focusing on literacy instruction and the use of AI in the classroom
- d. School Plan:

We will be continuing with our school priority of “Environmental Inquiry”, “Numeracy”, “School Climate” & “Literacy”
- e. “Flex Time” Update:
 - Students Surveys were conducted last week to get feedback from our students.
 - Two surveys (one MY and the other EY) - results were overwhelmingly positive!
 - Results revealed that students are enjoying the ability to choose how to spend their time...many selecting the outdoors, we suspect a shift during the winter months and working on providing more options for students.
 - We hope to find opportunities for MY students to lead “clubs” or options!!

Meeting Agenda Topics

1. Treasurer’s Report – Tracy Enns
 - a. \$49,678 in PAC Chequing account (this fund can be used for school initiatives funded by PAC such as BBQ, Staff Appreciation, Grade 8 Graduation)
 - b. \$22,928 in Lunch Supervision Program account
 - c. \$36,891 in PEG account.
2. Fun Lunch – Ruth Abreu
 - a. Everything going smoothly
3. Lunch Program – Ruth Abreu
 - a. New Microwaves needed as current ones are in poor condition. Ruth & Heather to count how many exactly are needed and get back to us in order to purchase.
 - b. Still needing 2 Supervisors

4. Fundraising –

- a. Discussion about selling Show & Save Cards and have books and order forms at the winter concert along with the bake sale. Funds will be for LOFTS (interactive educational tool) & Desks for Classroom that have triangle tables
- b. Separate committee to meet about Bake Sale at Winter concert

5. Miscellaneous/Questions/Concerns:

-Laidlaw Gear order were very difficult on the Hot Lunch website. Discussion over having sample clothing & order forms at th tri-conferences next year.

-Quick discussion about BBQ date & Vendor option. BBQ will return to date from previous years

-Next PAC Meeting: Dec 11th @ 7PM

Meeting Adjourned 8:35pm